GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1505
ANSWERED ON:29.10.2008
INCREASE OF TB CASES IN THE CAPITAL
Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a)Whether the Government has received reports that there is an increase in the number of Tuberculosis (TB) cases in Capital;

(b) If so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check such increase in the number of TB cases in the capital?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Revised National TB Control Programme (RNTCP) widely known as DOTS, which is WHO recommended strategy, is being implemented as a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme from 1997 in the country in a phased manner with an objective to achieve cure rate of 85% of new sputum positive cases and to detect at least 70% of such cases. By March 23, 2006, all the States in the country including Delhi are implementing RNTCP, allowing access of DOTS to all TB patients in the country. Under the programme, diagnosis and treatment facilities including a supply of anti TB drugs are provided free of cost to all TB patients. For quality diagnosis , designated microscopy centres have been established for every one lac population in the general areas and for every 50,000 population in the tribal, hilly and difficult areas. Sputum microscopy instead of X-ray avoids over diagnosis and identifies infectious cases. More than 12250 microscopy centres have been established in the country. Drugs are provided to the TB patients in patient wise boxes to ensure that all drugs for full course of treatment are earmarked the day a patient is registered for treatment under the programme. Treatment centres (DOT centres) have been established near to residence of patients to the extent possible. All government hospitals, Community Health Centres (CHC), Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Sub-centres are DOT Centres. In addition, NGOs, Private Practitioners (PPs) involved under the RNTCP, Community Volunteers, Anganwadi workers, Women Self Groups etc. also function as DOT Providers/DOT Centres. Drugs are provided under direct observation and the patients are monitored so that they complete their treatment.

The RNTCP is being implemented in Delhi through 24 Chest Clinics, 188 Microscopy Centers and 580 DOT Centers. The community and medical professional is made aware on the early sign and symptoms of TB so that the patients report themselves are referred for early diagnosis and treatment.

In Delhi, the case detection and success rate of new sputum positive patients put on treatment under DOTS is consistently above 90% and 85% respectively.